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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Alan P. ANDREWS et al.

Confirmation No. 9215

Application No.: 10/749,712

Group Art Unit: 3728

Filing Date: December 31, 1003

Examiner: Jerrold D. JOHNSON

For: EGG CARTON

Atty. Docket No.: 086056-6400-USPT

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Petition

Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement dated April 18, 2005, the shortened statutory period ending May 18, 2005, Applicant replies as follows.

In the restriction requirement dated April 18, 2005, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I: Claims 1-13 and 24-31, drawn to an egg carton, classified in class 206, subclass 521.1;

Group II: Claims 14-18, drawn to a two-way locking mechanism for a container, classified in class 220;

Group III: Claims 19-23, drawn to a hinge, classified in class 220;

Group IV: Claims 32-36, drawn to a method for securing a container, classified in class 29.

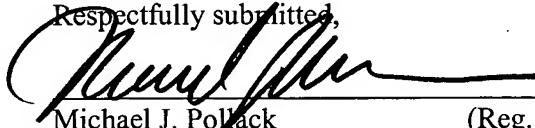
Applicant respectfully elects, with traverse, claims 14-18 of Group II, drawn to a two-way locking mechanism for a container, for prosecution at this time.

Applicant respectfully submits that there would be no serious burden to additionally search claims 19-23 of Group III, since both of Groups II and III have been classified by the Examiner in the same Class (*i.e.*, Class 220).

No fee is believed to be due for this submission. Please charge any required fees relating to the filing of this paper to Winston & Strawn LLP deposit account no. 50-1814.

Date February 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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